

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the detailed examination evidenced by the Office Action mailed September 28, 2007 (hereinafter "Office Action"). In response, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to recite that the exciter is in direct mechanical contact with the flat sheet. Applicants have also added new Claim 15 and have amended dependent Claim 14 to correct a typographical error therein. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons discussed herein.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants have concurrently filed herewith an information disclosure statement for references cited in the corresponding European Application. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the references cited therein.

The Section 102 Rejection

Claims 1-3 and 5-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Annamaa. *See* Office Action, page 2. Applicants respectfully submit that many of the recitations of the pending claims are neither disclosed nor suggested by Annamaa. For example, amended Claim 1 recites:

A communication terminal comprising a speaker and a low profile built-in radio antenna element, wherein said antenna element comprises a flat sheet incorporating a conductive antenna trace, **and wherein an exciter is connected to said sheet such that the exciter is in direct mechanical contact with the flat sheet** and devised to induce vibrations therein for generating sound, said antenna trace having a substantially flat pattern of conductive material carried on said sheet

Support for the amendment to Claim 1 is found at page 8, lines 2-3 of the specification of the present application. The Office Action points to first and second audio conductors 241 and 242 (audio) illustrated in Figure 2a of Annamaa as teaching the recitations of the exciter in Claim 1. As illustrated in Figure 2a of Annamaa, the audio portion is illustrated adjacent to two conductors 241 and 242. In stark contrast, as shown in Figure 3 of the present application, the exciter 26 is disposed in direct mechanical contact with the sheet 21. Nothing in Annamaa discloses or suggests that the exciter would be in direct mechanical contact with the flat sheet as recited in amended Claim 1 and illustrated in Figure 3 of the

present application. Accordingly, Applicants submit that amended Claim 1 and the claims that depend therefrom are patentable over Annamaa for at least the reasons discussed herein.

Many of the dependent claims are also separately patentable over Annamaa. For example, Claim 5 recites "wherein said exciter is connected adjacent to a side edge of said antenna element." The Office Action once again points to a portion of Figure 2a of Annamaa labeled audio. As illustrated in Figure 3 of the present application, the exciter 26 is disposed on a side edge of the antenna element. Nothing in Annamaa discloses or suggests placing the exciter on a side edge of the antenna element as recited in dependent Claim 5. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claim 5 is separately patentable over Annamaa for at least these additional reasons.

Furthermore, dependent Claim 11 recites "wherein a cover member of the terminal comprises an aperture adjacent to said antenna element" and dependent Claim 12 recites "wherein a sound channel extends from a position adjacent to said antenna element to a channel front outlet at a front side of the terminal." The Office Action points to Figure 1 of Annamaa as providing these teachings. *See* Office Action, page 3. Respectfully, nothing in Figure 1 illustrates the aperture or the sound channel as recited in Claims 11 and 12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 11 and 12 are separately patentable over Annamaa for at least these additional reasons.

The Section 103 Rejections

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Annamaa in view of United States Patent No. 4,851,654 to Nitta. *See* Office Action, page 4. Furthermore, Claims 13-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Annamaa in view of United States Patent No. 6,973,710 to Kiguchi. *See* Office Action, page 4. As discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that the dependent claims are patentable at least per the patentability of independent Claim 1 from which they depend.

The New Claim is Patentable

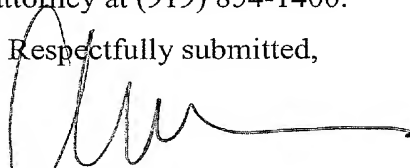
Applicants have added new dependent Claim 15, which depends from Claim 1. New dependent Claim 15 recites "wherein the exciter comprises a piezoelectric crystal configured to expand or contract responsive to electrical signals to induce the vibrations." Support for

this claim is found at page 8, lines 9-10 of the specification of the present application.
Nothing in the cited references discloses or suggests the recitations of new Claim 15.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above discussion, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

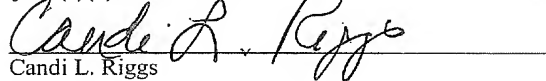


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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 21, 2007.


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